

Kennedy to Inspect Freedom Brigade

CPYRGHT

Will Attend Miami Rite On Saturday

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Staff Reporter

PALM BEACH, Fla.,

Dec. 27—President Kennedy today accepted an invitation from Cuban freedom fighters to inspect their brigade in Miami Saturday and told them he hoped some day to visit a free Cuba.

Six Cuban invasion leaders, most of whom were released from Fidel Castro's jails just

922 relatives of Cuban prisoners arrive in Florida after boat trip from Cuba

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Released prisoners "relatives" suddenly multiply as Cuba enlarges the number allowed to leave for Florida.

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before Christmas, called on the President this afternoon to thank him for his efforts in their behalf and to ask him to visit the brigade Saturday.

Manuel Artime, civil head of the brigade, said the President expressed his appreciation "for our heroic efforts which were not only made in behalf of freeing our country but were also in behalf of the Free World."

Pledges to Fight On

Artime told a press conference tonight after the visit with the President that the brigade would continue to fight to liberate Cuba.

Asked how this would be done, he replied it was too soon to have any definite plans, but "of one thing you may be sure, we shall return."

Jose Perez San Roman, commander of Brigade 2506 which was captured after three days of fighting in the invasion of April 1961, said the President agreed to inspect the brigade at the Orange Bowl in Miami at 10:30 a. m. Saturday.

Erneido Oliva, second in command of the brigade, said the President would be given the flag of Brigade 2506 at the Saturday ceremonies. Oliva called the flag "the greatest treasure we possess."

An estimated 1300 brigade members are expected to be in uniform at the bowl when the President arrives Saturday, San Roman said.

Earlier today, the President spent more than five hours with Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara and Deputy Secretary of Defense Roswell L. Gilpatric.

With them part of the time were members of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. The meeting began with the entire group in attendance on the patio of the President's oceanside residence here.

Later the President took McNamara and Gilpatric with him for a cruise on the Honey Fitz.

The military discussion was understood to include the Skybolt missile contract cancellation and how to meet congressional criticism of the decision to terminate the program.

The Administration decided some time ago not to continue with the Skybolt program. It has not yet formally cancelled the contracts, however.

Most of the time with the military leaders was said to have been spent on other defense problems, including the problems of carrying out the Pact of Nassau.

The President began his day with a conference with Golda Meir, Foreign Minister of Israel. She discussed "world affairs" with the President for slightly over an hour, she reported.

Another source said the conversation ranged over the world's trouble spots and did not involve any form of negotiation. Mrs. Meir is understood to have reminded the President that Israel has voted with the United States in the United Nations more than any other country.

On Friday, Mr. Kennedy confers here with officials on medical care for the aged and on aid to education—two of his most difficult political problems in the new Congress.

After battles over the last two years, both programs are being revamped to try to win support in the 88th Congress when it convenes next month.

Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare Anthony J. Celebrezze is scheduled to confer with the President at 10 a. m. With him will be Under Secretary Wilbur Cohen and Francis Keppel, the new Commissioner of Education.

Also participating in the conference will be Theodore C. Sorensen, the President's special counsel; Lawrence F. O'Brien, special assistant for congressional relations; Bud-

get Director Kenneth Gordon and Myer Feldman, deputy special counsel.

White House Press Secretary Pierre Salinger said the meeting would review the HEW budget and study the legislative programs involving HEW.

Administration officials have made a special effort to devise a new formula for aid to education that will overcome the religious controversies that bills have encountered in the past.